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PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME IV. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAMME 22. Human settlements

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1(1987)).

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions proposed below modify the relevant parts of the narrative of programme 22, Human settlements, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 and issued in document A/45/6/Rev.1. The revisions update the narrative on the basis of recent legislative mandates, including those adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Owing to the calendar of meetings of the Commission on Human Settlements, those revisicns were not reviewed by the Commission.

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* After adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, the complete revised medium-term plan will be issued in final printed form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1).

4. The following text modifies paragraphs 22.1, 22.4, 22.8, 22.11, 22.17 to 22.20, 22.25, 22.27 to 22.29, 22.33 to 22.35, 22.37, 22.40 and 22.43 of A/45/6/Rev.1.

A. Programme

1. General orientation

Paragraph 22.1

In the first sentence, replace "physical" with "environmental".

In the second sentence, delete "national".

Replace the third sentence with the following: "Indeed, sound management of rural and urban settlements can be the vehicle for overcoming many of the social, economic and environmental problems faced by all countries, industrialized and developing."

Replace subparagraph (b) with the following:

"(b) The need for a better understanding of the role of urbanization and cities in national development by Governments, policy-makers and the aid community;"

In subparagraph (e), replace "producing" with "the environmentally sound production of".

Add a new subparagraph (f) as follows:

"(f) The increase in environmental degradation through, inter alia, air, soil and water pollution and its direct consequences for the health and well-being of people and the sustained viability of settlements."

Paragraph 22.2

After paragraph 22.2, insert a new paragraph 22.3 as follows and renumber the remaining paragraphs accordingly:

"22.3 In addition, the medium-term plan's objectives and activities incorporate the main human settlements-related objectives adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. In particular, reference is made to chapter 7 of Agenda 21, 'Promoting sustainable human settlements development', which states that the overall human settlements objective is to improve the social, economic and environmental quality of human settlements and the living and working environments of all people, and in particular the urban and rural poor. Further reference is made to the following sections and/or

chapters of Agenda 21: chapter 9, Protection of the atmosphere, with special reference to 'Energy development and efficiency' and 'Transportation'; chapter 10, Integrated approaches to the planning and management of land resources; chapter 17, Protection of the oceans, with particular reference to 'The integrated management and development of coastal and marine areas, including exclusive economic zones'; chapter 18, Protection of the quality and supply of freshwater resources; and chapter 21, Environmentally sound management of solid wastes and sewage-related issues; with particular reference to chapter 28, Local authorities' initiatives in support of Agenda 21."

2. Overall strategy

Paragraph 22.4 (new para. 22.5) — Replace "physical" with "environmental".

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. GLOBAL ISSUES AND STRATEGIES

Paragraph 22.8 (new para. 22.9) — Add a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/163.

Paragraph 22.11 (new para. 22.12) — Insert "and environmental" after "social".

SUBPROGRAMME 3. INTEGRATED SETTLEMENT MANAGEMENT

Paragraph 22.17 (new para. 22.18) — Add a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/163.

Paragraph 22.18 (new para. 22.19) — After the third sentence, insert a new sentence as follows: "Most of their rapidly growing settlements, particularly in coastal areas and in small island States, face increasing pressure from the risk of natural disasters."

Paragraph 22.19 (new para. 22.20) — In subparagraph (a), after "so as to" insert "ensure their sustainable development in order to".

Add a new subparagraph (c) as follows:

"(c) Enable all countries, in particular those that are disaster-prone, to mitigate the negative impact of natural and man-made disasters on human settlements, national economies and the environment."

Paragraph 22.20 (new para. 22.21)

Add a new subparagraph (c) as follows:

"(c) Global programmes to assist countries, and municipalities in particular, in adopting sustainable urban management practices, such as the UNDP/World Bank/UNCHS (Habitat) urban management programme, the sustainable cities programme and the city data programme."

SUBPROGRAMME 5. LAND MANAGEMENT

Paragraph 22.25 (new para. 22.26)

Add a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/163.

Paragraph 22.27 (new para. 22.28)

Replace subparagraph (a) with the following:

"(a) Devise land-management systems that will provide for the land requirements of human settlement development through environmentally sound physical planning and land use so as to meet all settlement functions and to ensure access to land to all households and, where appropriate, the encouragement of communally and collectively owned and managed land. Particular attention will be paid to the needs of women and indigenous people."

Paragraph 22.28 (new para. 22.29)

Add a new subparagraph (c) as follows:

"(c) Land resource management: strengthen global coordination of land resource management activities through the various bilateral and multilateral agencies and programmes to promote the transfer of applicable experience on sustainable land-management practices to and among developing countries."

SUBPROGRAMME 6. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION

Paragraph 22.29 (new para. 22.30)

Add a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/163.

Paragraph 22.33 (new para. 22.34)

In subparagraph (b), replace "increased" with "adopting an integrated approach to the provision of water supply, energy, sanitation, drainage and solid-waste management, and".

Paragraph 22.34 (new para. 22.35)

At the end of paragraph (a), add a new sentence as follows: "These actions will be carried out within the framework of a settlement infrastructure and environment programme to develop an integrated human settlement approach to the planning, delivery, maintenance and management of environmental infrastructure and services, and to promote it by disseminating the results of applied research and pilot projects."

At the end of subparagraph (b), add a new sentence as follows: "Sustainable approaches to transport systems in human settlements will be promoted through the encouragement of development patterns that reduce transport demand, the promotion of non-motorized modes of transport, effective traffic management and the adoption of urban transport programmes favouring high-occupancy public transport."

In the third sentence of subparagraph (c), after "energy-supply processes" insert "and more energy-efficient technology and the reduction of negative impacts on human health and on the environment".

SUBPROGRAMME 7. HOUSING PRODUCTION

Paragraph 22.35 (new para. 22.36) — Add a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/163.

Paragraph 22.37 (new para. 22.38) — In subparagraph (b), at the end of the first sentence, add "in an environmentally sound way".

SUBPROGRAMME 8. CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Paragraph 22.40 (new para. 22.41) — Add a reference to General Assembly resolution 46/163.

Paragraph 22.43 (new para. 22.44) — In subparagraph (b), after the second sentence, insert a new sentence as follows: "Additionally, the overall approach would be harmonized with the goals for improving global environmental conditions outlined by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development for the human settlements sector, so as to prevent environmental degradation through depletion of the natural resource base, degradation of fragile eco-zones, chemical pollution and the use of building materials harmful to human health."